



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Eighteenth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9695

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**Introduced by Representative Frederick W. Siao**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to impose a logging ban in Iligan City and to provide penalties for violation thereof.

Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states:

*“Sec. 16. The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.”*

In accordance with this constitutional provision, various legislations have been enacted to protect and preserve the environment, including those that impose a logging ban in selected municipalities, provinces and regions in the country. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is mandated to implement forest developmental programs to prevent loggers from continuously degrading and denuding the country's natural resources. However, the deforestation in the Philippines continues unabated and calls for further legislation that will protect trees and conserve the forests.

In 2011, it was reported that the rain brought by Typhoon Sendong fell on areas in Iligan City where the natural forests, allegedly, had been illegally logged that resulted to flashfloods and overflowing rivers. The flashfloods were accompanied by rampaging logs from the mountain and caused massive loss of

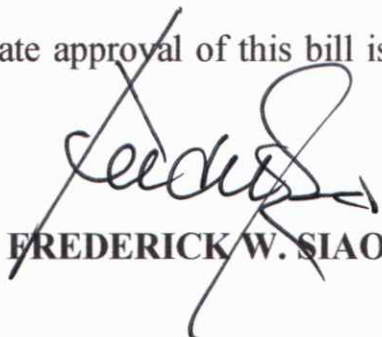
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lives and properties. Iligan City is richly endowed with forestlands that were preserved through the centuries. These forestlands must continue to survive for the benefit of the present and future generations. The unscrupulous commercial logging has no place in Iligan City as it may end the existence of the local forestlands.

The destruction of the forest areas must not be allowed to continue in Iligan City and anywhere else in the country. One only has to see the destruction wrought about by Typhoon Sendong to Iligan in 2011, largely due to mining and deforestation, to attest to the fact that these activities have overall detrimental effects than good for the people.

This proposed measure is in conjunction with House Bill No. 8276 that seeks to make Iligan City a “mining-free” zone.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



**FREDERICK W. SIAO**



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**AN ACT**

**IMPOSING A LOGGING BAN IN ILIGAN CITY AND PROVIDING  
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. *Imposition of a Logging Ban in Iligan City.* – A logging  
ban is hereby imposed in Iligan City.

SEC. 2. *Exemption from the Logging Ban.* – The following are exempt  
from the logging ban:

- (a) Planted trees within private land;
  - (b) Planted trees within forestlands established and developed by  
tenurial instrument holders in accordance with the approved plans;
  - (c) Wood sources necessary for government infrastructure projects in  
predetermined areas, preferably a communal forest;
  - (d) Trees necessary for extraction as means of silvicultural treatment;
- and
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1 (e) Trees affected during road construction and similar projects  
2 approved by the government for basic services, including energy and power  
3 development, public works or water utilities.

4 Any harvesting or cutting of tree species shall comply with Presidential  
5 Decree No. 705, Series of 1975, as amended, otherwise known as the "*Revised*  
6 *Forestry Code of the Philippines*," Presidential Decree No. 1586, Series of  
7 1978, entitled "*Establishing an Environmental Impact Statement System,*  
8 *Including Other Environmental Management Related Measures and for Other*  
9 *Purposes*," and other pertinent forestry and environmental laws, rules and  
10 regulations.

11 SEC. 3. **Penalties.** – Any person who commits a violation of Section 1 of  
12 this Act shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not  
13 more than twenty (20) years, or a fine of not less than Five hundred thousand  
14 pesos (P500,000.00) but not more than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), or  
15 both, at the discretion of the court. If the offender is a corporation or an  
16 association, the president, manager, managing partner, or any officer of the  
17 corporation or association who directly participated in the violation of Section 1  
18 of this Act shall be held liable.

19 If the offender is a public officer and is found guilty, the public officer  
20 shall be dismissed from the service and perpetually disqualified from holding  
21 public office. In addition, the public officer shall also be administratively held  
22 liable under existing laws, rules and regulations.

1        SEC. 4. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90)  
2    days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Environment and Natural  
3    Resources shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
4    implementation of this Act.

5        SEC. 5. ***Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive  
6    orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with or  
7    contrary to the provisions of this Act are repealed modified or amended  
8    accordingly.

9        SEC. 6. ***Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
10   publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

11        Approved,